

FISCAL NOTE

HB 1001 - SB 1282

March 10, 2003

SUMMARY OF BILL: Provides for individuals to request social security numbers be redacted from court files open for public inspection. Specifies procedure for requesting redaction. Provides for a fee to be charged for redaction equal to the fee paid to record the document. Provides for records voluntarily filed with the county register to be withdrawn by the person who filed it for a fee equal to the fee paid for filing the record.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase Local Govt. Expenditures* - Exceeds \$100,000

Increase Local Govt. Revenues - Not Significant

Other Fiscal Impact - Jeopardizes federal funding of \$230,000,000 for the Child Support Enforcement program and the Families First program.

Estimate assumes:

- local governments will experience an increase in expenditures for the costs associated with modifying existing systems and records for redaction of social security numbers and withdrawal of other records.
- many affected records are stored on microfilm and removal of social security numbers from such microfilm would be technically difficult and costly. To the extent records could be removed from microfilm, the rolls would have to be reproduced without the redacted or withdrawn information.
- the increase in expenditures to local governments is estimated to exceed \$100,000 statewide.
- local governments will experience not significant increases in revenues from fees paid for redaction of social security numbers.
- federal law requires gathering and utilizing social security numbers in the operation of a child support program and requires the state to have a compliant child support program in order to receive federal funding to support Families First. Redaction of social security numbers from documents such as divorce decrees would hinder child support enforcement efforts.

**Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director